

a first conveyor positioned to travel to convey material through the drum;

a second conveyor positioned below the first conveyor to travel to convey material through the drum in a direction substantially opposite the first conveyor, the second conveyor comprising at least first, second and third successive endless belts, each having a horizontal upper run, and a gap between each successive pair of belts, the second belt having an inclined portion extending from its horizontal upper run towards the first belt and terminating at an end position below the horizontal upper run of the first belt such that at least a portion of an amount of material falling from the first belt is deposited upon the inclined portion of the second belt, the gap between the second and third belts being situated within the drum;

a plate which is adjustable and which is positioned at a position below the horizontal upper run of the first belt and above the inclined portion of the second belt to guide the particulate material falling from the first belt and to control an amount of particulate material falling from the first belt which is deposited upon the inclined portion of the second belt;

means for feeding particulate material onto the first conveyor; and

means for feeding a foodstuff onto the first belt; such that in operation:

particulate material is fed from the first conveyor onto a foodstuff on the horizontal upper run of the first belt for coating the foodstuff on an upper side;

the coated foodstuff is transported to the horizontal upper run of the second belt with excess particulate material falling from the first belt;

the plate is adjusted to guide the excess particulate material falling from the first belt and to control the amount of falling particulate material deposited upon the inclined portion of the second belt and wherein the excess particulate material deposited upon the inclined portion of the second belt forms a layer of particulate material which is conveyed to the horizontal upper run of the second belt on which the coated foodstuff lies after being transported from the horizontal upper run of the first belt to the horizontal upper run of the second belt for coating the foodstuff on a bottom side;

the coated foodstuff is fed to the horizontal upper run of the third belt with further particulate material falling through the gap between the second and third belts onto an inside wall of the drum which rotates for conveying the further material to a position above the first conveyor upon which the further material falls by gravity; and

the first conveyor transports the further material back to the second conveyor.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising an additional conveyor positioned below the inclined portion of the second belt and the adjustable plate for collecting the excess particulate material not deposited onto the second belt from the first belt.

3. An apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the additional conveyor extends to within the drum for conveying the excess particulate material which the additional conveyor collects to the inside wall of the drum.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the first belt is perforated.

5. An apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the first belt is perforated to enable excess particulate material to fall through perforations of the perforated belt and wherein the adjustable plate is positioned between the horizontal upper run of the first belt and a lower run of the first belt.

6. An apparatus according to claim 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 further comprising an additional belt having a horizontal upper run located between the first and second belts and above the inclined portion of the second belt, there being a gap between the horizontal runs of the first, additional, and second belts, such that the foodstuff is transported from the first belt onto the additional belt and then to the second belt with excess particulate material falling through the gaps between the first, additional and second belts onto the inclined portion of the second belt, the adjustable plate being positioned to control the amount of particulate material falling between the first and additional belts which is deposited upon the inclined portion of the second belt.

7. An apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the adjustable plate is pivoted for adjustment about its horizontal upper edge.

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